

I am against PLC (Power Line Communications). I am a Professional Engineer and licensed in 6 states. I also have a lifetime commercial Radio Telephone License and a Radio Amateur License. I am in the Communication Consulting business with over 30 years experience.

Overhead power lines will act as antennas to radiate any superimposed radio frequency energy to any nearby device that can act as a receiver. Surely some of the superimposed radio frequency energy will be digital. This in turn will create harmonic energy that could be received in the VHF and UHF range of frequencies. Of great concern should be the interference to public safety and government frequencies. One of the most susceptible service will be the airline industry which traditional relies heavily on communication in the 108-128 Mhz band using AM modulation. The proposed PLC scheme could raise the noise level in the aircraft band to put airliners and their passengers at risk. This service already suffers from severe "power line noise" in some areas due to poor maintenance practices by electrical utilities.

As a radio amateur I operate on assigned amateur frequencies in the HF bands with a mobile station. I have a new transceiver, well designed with an advanced noise blanker and sharply tuned antenna system. Even with best engineering on my equipment I am constantly bothered by power line noise as I drive while operating. I have also worked with the power industry and I can tell you their managers do not believe that power line maintenance adds anything to the bottom line. So it suffers. I live in the Kansas City area and a number of years ago power companies had their own tree trimming crews. Not any more. They let "Mother Nature" trim the trees. That why in last years ice storm we had many people in our area out of power for over three weeks.

As always, this is about money. Those of you in the FCC know this and you know where this is coming from. But, don't let the money cause a bad decision. If PLC is implemented it will cause a bigger fiasco than the 27 MHz Citizens Band, ever did. And the CB band is still fiasco and still embarrassing.

Listen to the Engineers! NASA wished that it had.

Regards!

Bob Daffer